

Hus Happenings

April 2008



April 6th

BOOM Sunday- Youth Group

April 13th

Helen Anderson & Pat Jones
Judy & Mac McLaskey

April 20th

Joan Cross & Marlus Grimm
Marj Nejdil & Marge Pace

April 27th

Anne McDill & Wendy Barton
Mike & Jo Anne Hebert

April Birthdays

4th Alyssa Peshek
6th Zach McDill
8th Ann Procek
9th Julia Zahradnik
10th Melissa Pierce
13th James Walton
13th Mindi Kauffman
19th Elsie Drahovzal
19th Betty Svoboda
22nd Carl Landergott
23rd Diane Feiereisen
23rd Danielle Pierce
25th Jenny Theiss
29th Lori McLaskey
29th Tonya Lucke



April Anniversaries

25th Jack and Marcia Funcke
25th Doug and Cindy Page
30th Bill and Carol Cabbage



Transportation provided by the Deacons

Please call the office by the Thursday to schedule a ride to church. A Deacon will return your call and arrange to pick you up and take you home following worship service.

Have an old computer that works and it is just taking up space? We can use it. Contact the office to donate it!



Hard drives needed the most!

HELP NEEDED

As you know Terry has been printing the "History of Hus Church" for the past several months. The history of our Hus Church ends in 1949. We are missing the last 60 years! Please help out by filling in the gaps. Your submissions can be turned in to the office. Thank you!

Per Capita for 2008 is \$27.00.

PULPIT FILLS FOR APRIL

6th BOOM Sunday
13th Pastor Mel Ramos
20th Pastor Mel Ramos
27th Pastor Charles Daugherty

We've changed how we send out the Hus newsletter!

If you are not currently receiving the newsletter by e-mail and would like to, please let the office know!

Hus E-mail address: huschurch@huschurch.org

Website: www.huschurch.org

Phone: 319-363-0067

What is commitment?

by Crown Financial Ministries

If most Christians in America were as dedicated to Christ and mandates emphasized by Him—prayer, study and meditation on God's Word, helping those in need, and evangelism—as they are to satisfying the *"lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life"* (1 John 2:16), a great spiritual awakening in America would be guaranteed. Christ warned of this conflict and implied that His followers would always be confronted with a decision and a choice: live God's way or compromise and live a life consistent with the ways of the world.

Obviously, the sports, recreation, and other activities that appeal to our desires, enchantments, and fascinations are not the problems. These are merely outside indicators of inner spiritual conditions. The primary problem we see in American Christianity is a lack of vital and sincere commitment to God's way as mandated and exemplified by Jesus.

Commitment to Lordship

There are many dedicated Christians who are probably willing to accept God's direction at any moment and surrender everything to Him to accomplish whatever He has chosen for them to do. However, this seems to be the exception rather than the norm.

In today's Christian society in the West, especially in America, the standard requires very little commitment and even less dedication. This results in a huge body of believers who seem never to mature and *"grow up in all aspects into Him"* (Ephesians 4:15). They have accepted Christ as their Savior but have not made Him their Lord.

Commitment to the Lordship of Christ means that we must be willing to go where God determines we can best be utilized and not get so caught up in the daily affairs of life that we are unable to recognize His guidance and His directives.

Priorities

Although most Christians realize that God expects to be first in their lives, followed by spouse and family, work, and so on, few understand that by maintaining this priority standard conflicts often can develop.

Putting God first means an active, daily process of knowing and being known by Him. It requires a heartfelt desire to please God and a willingness to accept God's authority over our wills, desires, or wants. As such, many times the pursuit of this first priority—keeping Him first in our lives—comes in conflict with the secondary priorities—responsibility to spouse, family, work, and, in some instances, recreation. However, those dedicated to keeping God first will ultimately come to the realization that the first priority lasts for eternity; all others cease at death. *"No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be devoted to one and despise the other"* (Luke 16:13). All that truly matters is what we can do for the kingdom of God. If this is our priority, all other priorities will fall in place.

Other commitments

Sometimes it's easier for Christians to commit money (treasures) than it is to commit time and talents. However, stewardship does not involve money at the exclusion of time and talents; it comprises all three. *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also"* (Matthew 6:21).

Treasures. The way Christians use money is the clearest outside indicator of an inner spiritual condition. Not only is Matthew 6:21 a spiritual truth that reflects Christians' spiritual condition, but it also shows directive because where the heart is, treasures will ultimately soon follow.

Talents. Many Christians waste the intellect, abilities, and talents that God has given by dedicating their lives to the pursuit of material success. There is nothing wrong with success, as long as it is a product of a life dedicated to God's service. To use those gifts in the pursuit of material wealth and prominence from the world is, in the scheme of God's overall plan, an exercise in futility.

Time. Not many Christians in America today can honestly say that they daily give God the time He wants from them. In recent surveys it was found that after time is set aside for work, eating, sleeping, and other activities of a typical daily routine, less than 2 percent of the remaining time is spent in personal communication with God—prayer, meditation, and study of God's Word. Time is definitely the one area of our lives over which His Lordship is least considered.

Conclusion

The commitment of our treasures goes beyond giving money to the work of the Lord. It also includes giving Him our time and talents and making Him first priority in our lives. *"But seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you"* (Luke 12:31). The decision of choosing which master to follow is one that all Christians must make daily. For this reason, Christ must be not only Savior but also the Lord of our lives.

This article is an adaptation of Larry Burkett's Principles Under Scrutiny, No. 41, "Christian Commitment—What Is It?" published by Christian Financial Concepts, 1992.

Rotational Sunday School Exploring God's World

Hus Church Sunday School is from
10:45am-11:30am each Sunday

**KIDS AGES 3-5TH
GRADE WILL MEET
IN THE SCRIPTURE
SAFARI ROOM.
FROM THERE, WE'LL
DIRECT THE KIDS TO
THEIR STATION FOR
THE DAY.**

Rotational Sunday School will finish up our study of Mary and Martha from Luke 10:38-42. Our memory verses for this lesson are Psalm 46:10a "*Be still and know that I am God*" and Romans 12:5 "*So in Christ we who are many form one body and each member belongs to all the others.*" We've talked about God's gifts to us and how we use them.

We'll start our lesson about Pentecost on April 20.

The Stations:

Imagination Island:
Creative Art

Bible Broadway:
Drama

**Movies on the
Mount: Video**

**SCRIPTURE
SAFARI:**
Bible Exploration

**Polar P.C.:
Computers**

THE MIDDLE
SCHOOL GANG
MEETS HAS A
GREAT DISCUSSION
EACH WEEK WITH
CINDY.

Adults meet
in the
upstairs
Adult Sunday
School Room
for class
with Judy!
Come join in
the
discussion.
Everyone is
welcome.

**High School
Youth
meet in the
Youth Room!**

Populating Heaven through World Missions



Teaching Opportunities

Prayer & Praise

- ★ Kent's heart checked out normal
- ★ God's faithfulness in teaching opportunities

Prayer that:

- ★ Anita will trust Christ
- ★ God will lead if He still wants us to minister at Torun University
- ★ God will open a church job for Kyle & Jane
- ★ Break through in Polish Language
- ★ You would come this summer to English Camps
- ★ God would continue to open doors of ministry opportunity
- ★ Teaching in England, the second half of Preaching class and Bible Study methods



TORUŃ UNIVERSITY RETREAT - About 20 students came and enjoyed themselves at this retreat. I challenged the students to think about serving God in 2008. It went really well and thanks for praying. Your prayers really "saved me" when I was asked at 9:30 P.M. Saturday night to preach the next morning. Boy, did I panic. I had been told a long time ago to always be prepared to preach on a second's notice but I never brought any sermon material with me. I immediately started working on the sermon and finished (as good as possible) at 2:00 A.M. When I preached that morning, God

helped me to encourage and challenge the believers to be bold with their witness for Jesus no matter how bad the persecution. It was well received and again I experienced God's help in preparing and giving the message. Thanks for taking the time to bring us before the throne of God.

TEACHING "DO-ABLE EVANGELISM" IN BORNE EQUIPPING UNIVERSITY - I was able to teach my seminar for 12 weeks to about 10 high school students and 4 adults. They worked really hard at writing, memorizing and practicing their personal testimonies. They also memorized "Salty Spiritual Questions" and the bridge gospel presentation.

We prayed for God to open doors of opportunity to connect with lost people. I challenged the students who rode the bus to ask their friends if they were interested in spiritual things? I got good reports back that they asked the question and got into good discussions.



CLASS OF INTERNATIONAL YOUTH WORKERS - For a week I got to teach these three students the fundamentals of public speaking. We practiced how to overcome nerves before they spoke, how to look confident, speaking outside our comfort "box," what to do with your hands, changing voice intonations, eye contact, reading the Bible out loud, impromptu 2 minute talk, and much more. They started the week nervous and self-conscious standing up before the class but by the end of the week they were confident and really enjoying the challenge of speaking.

ARE YOU SIGNED UP TO COME TO A SHORT-TERM MISSIONS FAMILY CAMP THIS SUMMER?

We're still praying that you are checking this out with God.

You would be a blessing and receive a blessing.

July 24 - August 8!

Evangelism: God gave me another opportunity to witness when we were walking in Bicester, England. We met a woman pushing a baby carriage who was actually walking to the same location as we were. I told her I was surveying English people and could I ask her a question. She said, "Yes," so I asked her, "Do you have any spiritual beliefs?" We got to talk about Jesus and salvation by grace and not by works. Each time when I have finished witnessing, I feel a tremendous spiritual significance in my heart. I trust that we all will share our faith daily and each of us experience this greatest significance of life. (It sure is great to be able to speak English!)

"Inviting Event" to plant a church in Drawsko: We took 15 people to a neighboring town and put on an inviting event. The girls did sign language to a song and a flag routine to a couple songs. We had a drama, message, and special music. The high school kids enjoyed it and are ready to go to another village to tell of Jesus.

Passed out food to 24 needy families in the area! We had to drive to neighboring villages. Wow, what an experience. We drove on back roads and trails that weren't on the map. Kent asked, "How would someone come and find us if we needed help?" Nie Wiem! (Polish I don't know!) *PS: Thanks for helping us to buy the ministry car.*

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FAMILY

The grocery store ladies were invited into our home so that we could say, "thank you" to them for serving us. I made invitations to invite all the "sklep" (grocery store) ladies into our home. Nicole and Iwonka helped, prayed, and we waited expectantly. Only three ladies came but it was fun to build relationships. We had "ciastko" (cookies) and punch, American style.

Jan got to talk in England on the topic MDD! It's a little known disease that we often struggle with called **Mind Dilusional Disease**. For some reason we don't believe the truth of God's Word but believe lies. I was very nervous when I started to speak because Kent was teaching how to preach to his class and I had read his material and I wanted to be a good example to his students. Our faithful God came through and people said it was really practical and they could see how to change their mind. When we got back to Poland, God said to me, "OK can you practice what you taught?" I really struggled with wrong thoughts and discouragement. One can never stop fighting MDD and we must keep learning to trust Him and stay in His Word.

God opened some doors for Kent to teach and have his heart tested by American doctors – we will tell you about in the next newsletter.

*Thanks for your love and encouragement,
Kent and Jan*



A HISTORY OF HUS MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PART 6 CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.

ADAPTED FROM A HISTORICAL TREATISE WRITTEN BY CHARLOTTE STELCIK



THE SECOND CHURCH

In 1906, when plans were formulated for a new church, a building fund was created. Eight years later, in 1914, a total of \$5,000 was on hand. On June 23, 1915, the old church building was sold and moved away to make room for the new structure. On July 6th, Jan Hus Day, ground was broken for the new Bohemian Presbyterian Church.

On July 15, 1915, the elders met in the German Evangelical Church where the congregation held services while the new church was being built. The corner stone was laid on August 21, 1915. The building, complete with furnishings, was to cost \$24,000 but actually the final total reached \$30,000. On Sunday, January 9, 1916, Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church was dedicated free from debt. Dr. J. Bren preached the dedicatory sermon assisted by visiting ministers from Cedar Rapids and vicinity, and other Czech churches in the Middle West.



The following article appeared in the January 11, 1916 edition of the Cedar Rapids Republican"

"The dedication services of the Hus Memorial Presbyterian Church were celebrated Sunday to the satisfaction of all participating. It was a day long to be remembered by those who were in attendance.

Short services at 10 o'clock in the morning were held before the opening of the gates of the edifice. Many persons from adjoining towns, Center Point, Walker, Vinton, Fairfax, Luzerne, and Mt. Vernon, were present. The meeting was opened with the signing of the Hundredth Psalm after which Rev. A. Paulu of Vining offered up a prayer and Rev. Pokorny of Ely, gave a short address. Miss Marie Pudil presented the keys of the church to its pastor, Rev. V. Hlavaty, the articles being laid on a platter bordered with roses. Rev. Hlavaty, with suitable remarks, opened the doors in the name of God.

The regular service began by the singing of 'How Amiable are Thy Dwellings, O God,' and in a short time the auditorium was filled by its congregation. Rev. Hlavaty offered a dedicatory prayer and Rev. Bren, of Hopkins, Minnesota, preached the dedication sermon. Rev. Pokorny read a poem, composed by himself, especially for the occasion. A collection of \$1,500 was taken up which leaves but a very small debt. Thirty new members joined the church.

In the afternoon at three o'clock, services continued, this time in the English tongue. After the opening hymn, Rev. F. H. Shedd conducted a session of scripture reading and Rev. Dr. Ferguson followed this with prayer. Two quartets from the Sinclair Memorial Chapel rendered two songs. Rev. R. B. A. McBride spoke at length on 'The Church of Today' and Rev. E. R. Burkhalter spoke on 'What the World Owes Bohemia from the Religious and Historical Standpoint.'

A second hymn by the congregation followed the close of this address. Rev. A. M. Jayne spoke on behalf of the Ministerial Union and with singing of America and the benediction by Rev. E. R. Burkhalter, the services were closed.

In the evening the third service consecrated. Short addresses were given by Rev. Paulu, Rev. Dudycha, and Rev. Bren. Rev. M. Spinka, pastor of the Reformed Bohemian Church, extended greetings. Several songs by the choir, under the direction of Joseph A. Popelka, were thoroughly enjoyed. Rev. Hlavaty brought the celebration to a close by his speech of thanks to the contractors, the building committees and the ladies who so generously prepared and served dinner and supper to the guests."

The church was a brick structure (which is still standing and being used for worship by another congregation) which measures thirty-six by thirty-six feet. It was divided in the middle by a door which could be raised or lowered. The auditorium seated five hundred people. Above the main sanctuary, on the balcony, were four rooms used for Sunday School. In the basement there was a large hall in which dinners were served, meetings held, programs given, and plays presented. Adjoining this room was an adequately equipped kitchen. On the other side of the large hall there was a smaller room which was used for recreation, and half of the room served as the nursery for the youngest group in the church.

¹⁹This is what the Lord All-Powerful says: "The special days when you fast in the fourth, fifth, seventh, and tenth months will become good, joyful, happy feasts in Judah. But you must love truth and peace."

On December 12, 1916, an interesting meeting of the Czech people was held in the church which was filled to capacity. Dr. Bohumil Simek, a professor at the University of Iowa, was the speaker. The purpose of the meeting was the liberation of the Czech people from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The people of the church always try to help in the old country's freedom—morally, politically, and financially. A collection of \$379 was taken.

In the winter of 1917 the church installed a new organ at the cost of \$2,100. It was finished on December 15th and dedicated at a special program on December 24th of that same year.

In October, 1916, the girls decided to organize a society. Thirteen girls then established a club which they called Esther. Their purpose was to help needy families. This organization, like several others, faded away in time. The Boy Scouts undertook their first organization under the auspices of the church in 1916.

The Christian Endeavor organization can be traced back through the minutes almost to the very beginning of the church. In addition to their program of religious education and fellowship, they sponsored ice cream socials, presented plays, and presided over booths at the bazaars. In the late 1940's the group changed their name to the Westminster Youth Fellowship. This group also faded away in time.

An annual event of the church is the Christmas program which was given on the Sunday evening preceding Christmas. All age groups from the Sunday School took part. The church platform in the main sanctuary was decorated and in the afternoon of the day of the program two Christmas trees were decorated by the young people. The program, which was directed by the superintendent of the Sunday School, consisted of recitations given by individuals, and usually exercises were offered by various age groups. Each Sunday School group had something to offer. The choir also took part in the program. It was customary for several children each to recite a poem or some small selection in Czech.

In 1918 a number of Sunday evening programs were held by the congregation. These were not necessarily religious in nature but consisted of lectures of educational nature. Various speakers came to talk to the people on these evenings.

Because of Him ~ Terry

PS: Don't forget to bring \$1 each week to youth group for Wolia!

April

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|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 st | Youth Ministry Parents Meeting, 8 PM at the Coffee Talk Cafe. |
| 2 nd | Movie Night starts at 5:15 PM. Get to the youth room early for a seat, as we will start at 5:15 PM with prayer, pizza, pop, and the movie. Please bring \$3 to help cover cost of the pizza and pop. |
| 6 th | BOOM Sunday. |
| 6 th | Youth serving Sunday Evening Meal at 1st Presbyterian Church, Cedar Rapids - 4 - 6 PM. |
| 9 th | Youth Group (Meal at 5:15 PM, lesson and fellowship at 5:45 PM) |
| 12 th | Hus Racing League (HRL) 2008 Season, Race #2. Registration at 9:30 AM, racing at 10. |
| 16 th | Youth Group (Meal at 5:15 PM, lesson and fellowship at 5:45 PM) |
| 22 nd | Youth Ministry Parents Meeting, 8 PM at the Panera Bread on Collins Rd. |
| 23 rd | Youth Group (Meal at 5:15 PM, lesson and fellowship at 5:45 PM) |
| 25 th -26 th | 30 Hour Famine - be seen. be heard. Be Hungry |
| 30 th | Youth Group (Meal at 5:15 PM, lesson and fellowship at 5:45 PM) |

Every Monday: Youth Prayer Time, 7 PM from where ever you are.

Every Wednesday: Marion High School Bible study at 7 AM.

Every Friday: Marion High School Bible study at 3 PM.



Times are subject to change. Events not scheduled yet will be announced as far in advance as possible so you can make plans to attend.

A Moment With God


Dear God,

In just a few short weeks we will be participating in the 30 hour Famine. Lord; help us to get a glimpse of what this event is really about. Help us to raise awareness in our community for everyone who does not have enough food to eat each day regardless of where they are in the world. Help us during the famine to get past our stomachs growling and lead us as we serve our community. We have experienced your love when we were in trouble and know that there is a place for us during the storms of life and we are so thankful for that. We pray that those who do not know you will find you and experience this too. Help us "Starve Hunger!"

Amen!

¹⁹This is what the Lord All-Powerful says: "The special days when you fast in the fourth, fifth, seventh, and tenth months will become good, joyful, happy feasts in Judah. But you must love truth and peace."

April

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		1 ✚ Quilters - 8:30 AM ✚ Adult Bible Study - 1:30 PM ✚ Trustees Meeting - 7:00 PM ✚ Youth Ministry Meeting at Coffee Talk Café- 8 PM	2 ✚ Marion HS Bible Study - 7 AM ✚ Common Meal - 5:15 PM ✚ Youth Group Movie Night - 5:15 PM ✚ Choir - 7:00 PM ✚ Worship Team - 8:30 PM	3 ✚ Red Hat Ladies - 4 PM	4 ✚ Marion HS Bible Study - 3 PM	5 ✚ Men's Breakfast at Wilson Ave Hy-Vee - 8 AM ✚ Affinity Evangelism Training at New Covenant Bible- 8:30 AM
6 ✚ Worship Service - 9:30 AM BOOM Sunday ✚ Sunday School - 10:45 AM ✚ Youth serving Sunday evening meal at 1 st Presbyterian- 4-6 PM	7 ✚ Youth Ministry Prayer - 7 PM ✚ Relational Evangelism Training- Part 1 at Calvary Baptist- 6:30 PM	8 ✚ Quilters - 8:30 AM ✚ Adult Bible Study - 1:30 PM ✚ Deacons meeting - 7:00 PM ✚ Relational Evangelism Training- Part 1 at River of Life Ministries- 6:30 PM	9 ✚ Marion HS Bible Study - 7 AM ✚ Common Meal - 5:15 PM ✚ Youth Group - 5:45 PM ✚ Choir - 6:45 PM ✚ Worship Team - 8:30 PM	10	11 ✚ Dámská- 1 PM ✚ Marion HS Bible Study - 3 PM	12 ✚ Hus Racing League Registration - 9:30 AM Racing - 10 AM 
13 ✚ Worship Service - 9:30 AM Teaching: Pastor Mel Ramous ✚ Sunday School - 10:45 AM	14 ✚ Youth Ministry Prayer - 7 PM	15 ✚ Men's Breakfast at Wilson Ave Hy-Vee - 7:30 AM ✚ Quilters - 8:30 AM ✚ Adult Bible Study - 1:30 PM ✚ Session meeting - 7:00 PM	16 ✚ Marion HS Bible Study - 7 AM ✚ Common Meal - 5:15 PM ✚ Youth Group - 5:45 PM ✚ Choir - 6:45 PM ✚ Worship Team - 8:30 PM	17	18 ✚ Marion HS Bible Study - 3 PM	19
20 ✚ Worship Service - 9:30 AM Teaching: Pastor Mel Ramous Communion ✚ Sunday School - 10:45 AM	21 ✚ Youth Ministry Prayer - 7 PM ✚ Relational Evangelism Training- Part 2 at Calvary Baptist- 6:30 PM	22 ✚ Quilters - 8:30 AM ✚ Adult Bible Study - 1:30 PM ✚ Relational Evangelism Training- Part 2 at River of Life Ministries- 6:30 PM	23 ✚ Marion HS Bible Study - 7 AM ✚ Common Meal - 5:15 PM ✚ Youth Group - 5:45 PM ✚ Choir - 6:45 PM ✚ Worship Team - 8:30 PM	24 ✚ Lunch Bunch at Bishop's- 11:30 AM	25 ✚ Marion HS Bible Study - 3 PM ✚ 30 Hour Famine	26 ✚ 30 Hour Famine ✚ Hus Worship Team at Mission of Hope - 6:30 PM
27 ✚ Worship Service - 9:30 AM Teaching: Charles Daugherty ✚ Sunday School - 10:45 AM	28 ✚ Youth Ministry Prayer - 7 PM	29 ✚ Quilters - 8:30 AM ✚ Adult Bible Study - 1:30 PM	30 ✚ Marion HS Bible Study - 7 AM ✚ Common Meal - 5:15 PM ✚ Youth Group - 5:45 PM ✚ Choir - 6:45 PM ✚ Worship Team - 8:30 PM			

2008

